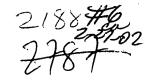
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

North, et al.

Serial No.:

09/591,659

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant was made aware of additional art resulting from a search made during prosecution of the corresponding PCT application. Therefore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) Applicant submits this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicant hereby submits the following references in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Copies of the references cited in the attached PTO-1449 are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner. Furthermore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) and (h), no representation is made that this is material to patentability of the present application or that a search has been made. Copies of the references cited in the attached PTO-1449 are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner. Applicant hereby submits that claims of Applicant's above-referenced patent application are patentably distinguishable from these references.

The Applicant considers that no fees are due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 23-2426 of WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK P.C.

Respectfully submitted, WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK Attorneys for Applicant

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Attorney's Docket: 2836- P101US

Date 1/10/02

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